



CONNECTICUT ASSOCIATION OF ATHLETIC DIRECTORS, INC.

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TESTIMONY ON THE POOL SAFETY BILL, HB 5113

**Submitted by: Fred P. Balsamo, CMAA
Executive Director
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The Connecticut Association of Athletic Directors would like to commend the Public Safety Committee for initiating legislation on pool safety. While pool safety should be a mindset for all those who administer a pool program, we would like to take this opportunity to recommend that proposed legislation specify that it is only those programs requiring swimming instruction that would need to take additional precautions and require life guards. After hours competitive school varsity swim programs already employ coaches required to possess a state permit, concussion training, first aid/CPR and mandated ongoing coaching education. Furthermore, all students involved in a varsity swim program are proficient in swimming and a majority of the participants are life guard certified. It would be an unnecessary financial burden on a school's varsity swim program to employ additional staff on a daily basis to monitor competitive practices and meets.